

THE [REMINISCENCES OF CARL SCHURZ
right and some Union breastworks on Gulp's Hill
on their ex-
treme left; hut they had also failed in several of
their attacks,
and become aware how difficult it would be to
break the Union
lines at any point in a manner to secure a
decisive result. On
the other hand, our army had lost some ground,
but at the same
time made its position stronger by the secure
occupation of
the Round Tops and the rectification of its line
between them
and Cemetery Hill. But both armies had suffered
enormous
losses in killed, wounded, and prisoners* and the
commander of
each, as has appeared from subsequent
revelations, profoundly
wished he were well out of the mess, while
neither could see
how he could do else than continue on the line on
which he had
begun. A council of the corps commanders held
by General
Meade that night was unanimous in that decision.

At dawn of day on the 3rd of July we were
roused from
sleep by a fierce rattle of musketry in the woods
of Gulp's Hill.
As already mentioned, the withdrawal of several
brigades from
our right to assist our left in the fights of the
preceding day
had enabled the enemy to get possession of
several breastworks
abandoned by the Twelfth Corps. General Meade
decided that
for the security of our right flank those positions
must be re-
taken, and the Twelfth Corps went at the task
with great
spirit. It was a little battle of its own, of which,
owing to the
woods on the field of action, we could see nothing
except the
columns of troops sent from the center and the

left wing of
our army to the assistance of the right. But the
firing was
incessant, both of artillery and musketry, now
and then swell-
ing into a great roar, stimulating the imagination
of the distant
listeners into nervous activity as to what might
be happening
tinder that cloud of white smoke hovering over
Gulp's Hill.
About half past ten the firing ceased, and it was
reported that
the Twelfth, after a six hours' stubborn fight.
not too bloody